

COPY

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, Yongming Xia, James E. Thompson, and Jeffrey S. Devine, declare:

We are citizens of the United States of America and residents of the City of Kingwood, County of Harris, State of Texas; the City of The Woodlands, County of Montgomery, State of Texas; and the City of The Woodlands, County of Montgomery, State of Texas.

We verily believe ourselves to be the original, first, and joint inventors of the described and claimed in United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/237,554, filed September 9, 2002.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification, including the claims.

That this application in part discloses and claims subject matter disclosed in our earlier filed pending application, Serial No. 09/966,317, filed September 27, 2001.

That, as to the subject matter of this application which is common to said earlier application, we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to said earlier application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to said earlier application.

That said common subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate before the date of said earlier application in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to said earlier application.

That the first filed application for patent or inventor's certificate on said invention set forth in said earlier application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States is: filed .

As to the subject matter of this application which is not common to said earlier application, we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention thereof; or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to the date of this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the date of this application.

That said subject matter of this application which is not common to said earlier application has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the date of this application.

That the first filed application for patent or inventor's certificate on said invention first set forth in this application filed by us or our representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States is: filed .

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) including matters as occurred between the filing date of our said earlier application and the filing date of this application.

We declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

We hereby appoint William H. Logsdon, Registration No. 22,132; John W. McIlvaine, Registration No. 34,219; Russell D. Orkin, Registration No. 25,363; David C. Hanson, Registration No. 23,024; Richard L. Byrne, Registration No. 28,498; Frederick B. Ziesenhein, Registration No. 19,438; Kent E. Baldauf, Registration No. 25,826; Barbara E. Johnson, Registration No. 31,198; Paul M. Reznick, Registration No. 33,059; Lynn L. Shideler, Registration No. 35,034; Julie W. Meder, Registration No. 36,216; Lester N. Fortney, Registration No. 38,141; Randall A. Notzen, Registration No. 36,882; James G. Porcelli, Registration No. 33,757; Kent E. Baldauf, Jr., Registration No. 36,082; Christian E. Schuster, Registration No. 43,908; Dean E. Geibel, Registration No. 42,570; Thomas Clinton, Registration No. 40,561; Nathan J. Prepelka, Registration No. 43,016; Jessica M. Schroth, Registration No. 47,102; Kirk M. Miles, Registration No. 37,891; Gary F. Matz, Registration No. 45,504; Darrell E. Williams, Registration No. 45,222; and Alka A. Patel, Registration No. 49,092, whose post office address is 700 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1818, Telephone No. 412-471-8815, our attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, to amend the specification, to appeal in case of rejection, as they may deem advisable, to receive the patent when granted and generally to do all matters and things needful in the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as we could do.

All correspondence and telephone calls should be addressed to John W. McIlvaine.

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration and power of attorney.

November 3, 2002
Date

Yongming XIA
Yongming XIA

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration and power of attorney.

October 28, 2002

Date

James E Thompson

James E. Thompson

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration and power of attorney.

November 4, 2002

Date

Jeffrey S. Devine

Jeffrey S. Devine



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APRIL 11, 2003

PTAS

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON ORKIN ET AL
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Under Secretary of Commerce For Intellectual Property and
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231
www.uspto.gov



102310195A

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BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNEE'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNEE:

XIA, YONGMING

DOC DATE: 11/03/2002

ASSIGNEE:

THOMPSON, JAMES E.

DOC DATE: 10/28/2002

ASSIGNEE:

DEVINE, JEFFREY S.

DOC DATE: 11/04/2002

ASSIGNEE:

ASHBROOK CORPORATION
11600 E HARDY
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77093

SERIAL NUMBER: 10237554

FILING DATE: 09/09/2002

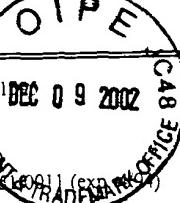
PATENT NUMBER:

ISSUE DATE:

RECEIVED	ISSUE DATE:
WEBB, ZIESENHEIM, LOGSDON	
ORKIN, & HANSON PC	
APR 17 2003	

MARY BENTON, EXAMINER
ASSIGNMENT DIVISION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

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Tab settings



RECC

12-13-2002



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D.S.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

EET

To the Assistant Commissioner for Patents:
Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Yongming XIA

12-9-02

James E. Thompson

Jeffrey S. Devine

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:

 Assignment Merger Security Agreement Change of Name Other _____Execution Date: November 3, 2002; October 28, 2002; and November 4, 2002,
respectively.

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Ashbrook Corporation

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: 11600 E Hardy

City: Houston

State: Texas ZIP: 77093

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application,
the execution date of the application is: _____

A. Patent Application No.(s)

Serial No. 10/237,554, filed September 9, 2002

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

B. Patent No.(s)

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document
should be mailed:

Name: John W. McIlvaine

Internal Address: Webb Ziesenhein Logsdon

Orkin & Hanson, P.C.

Street Address: 700 Koppers Building

436 Seventh Avenue

City: Pittsburgh State: PA ZIP: 15219-1818

6. Total number of applications and
patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00

 Enclosed Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

(Attach triplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy
is a true copy of the original document.

Gary F. Matz

Name of Person Signing
Registration No. 45,504

Signature

December 2, 2002

Date

12/2/2002 DBYRNE 00000022 10237554

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Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document 2

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, WE, Yongming Xia, James E. Thompson, and Jeffrey S. Devine, residing in the City of Kingwood, County of Harris, State of Texas; the City of The Woodlands, County of Montgomery, State of Texas; and the City of The Woodlands, County of Montgomery, State of Texas, respectively, have invented certain new and useful improvements in "Vertical Filter" for which a patent application was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on September 9, 2002 and bears Serial No. 10/237,554;

AND, WHEREAS, Ashbrook Corporation, a corporation of the State of Texas, having a place of business at 11600 East Hardy, Houston, Texas 77093, hereinafter called the "assignee," is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to said provisional patent application and the inventions and improvements therein disclosed.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration paid to us by said assignee, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we do hereby assign, sell, transfer, and set over unto said assignee the entire right, title and interest in and to said provisional application and the inventions and improvements therein disclosed for the United States and all foreign countries and all regular applications claiming the benefit of said provisional application, divisions, reissues, continuations, continuations-in-part, renewals, and/or extensions thereof, said assignee to have and to hold the interests herein assigned to the full ends of the terms of said regular applications claiming the benefit of said provisional application and said divisions, reissues, continuations, continuations-in-part, renewals, and/or extensions thereof, respectively, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us had this assignment not been made.

We covenant that we are the lawful owners of the said provisional application, and said inventions and improvements therein disclosed, that the same are unencumbered, that no license has been granted to make, use, or sell the said inventions or improvements or any of them, and that we have the full right to make this assignment.

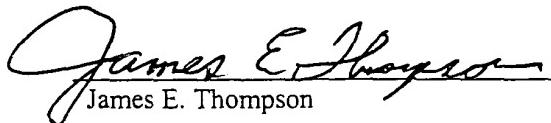
And for the consideration aforesaid, we agree jointly and individually that we will communicate to said assignee or the representatives thereof any facts known to us respecting said inventions and improvements, and will, upon request, but without expense to us, testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all regular, divisional, reissue, continuation, continuation-in-part, renewal, and/or extension applications, make all rightful oaths, and generally do all other and further lawful acts, deemed necessary or expedient by said assignee or by counsel for said assignee, to assist or enable said assignee to obtain and enforce full benefits from the rights and interests herein assigned.

This assignment shall be binding upon our heirs, executors, administrators, and/or assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and/or assigns, as the case may be, of said assignee.

Executed November 3, 2002.

Executed October 28, 2002.


Yongming Xia


James E. Thompson

Executed November 4, 2002.


Jeffrey S. Devine